

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Kabie et al. (U.S. Pat.No. 6,795,445).

A distinguishing aspect of the pending claims is that the data links (“a”, “b”, “c”, etc., Fig. 1) each is associated with a predetermined communication resource (e.g., bandwidth, as recited in dependent claim 5). Thus, claim 1 recites in part “at least one information table identifying at least one route” where the information table includes data links which constitute the at least one route and “allocations of predetermined communication resources of the data links.” Independent claim 2 similarly recites “a plurality of network links that each have a predetermined communication resource.” Independent claim 7 recites in part “associating a predetermined data communication capacity with each of the data communicating links.” Independent claim 12 similarly recites “a data store comprising an information table of information indicative of a predetermined communication resource associated with each network link.”

Kabie disclose a “core topology database” which is maintained by edge node devices 14 and 20 (Fig. 1). *Col. 1, lines 45-49*. However, this in and of itself does not teach or suggest “at least one information table identifying at least one route” where the information table includes data links which constitute the at least one route and “allocations of predetermined communication resources of the data links” as recited in claim 1, for example, and as similarly recited in claims 2, 7, and 12.

Kabie describes “managing bandwidth in core network 12 [Fig. 1A] at two levels.” *Col. 4, lines 51-52*. The first level is at a transport layer, which manages the links 16 in the core network 12 between edge nodes 20. The second level is at a service layer, which manages bandwidth of the tunnels established at the transport layer. A “tunnel refers to the aggregate/transport LSPs across the core 12 (i.e. they originate and terminate on the edge nodes 20).” *Id at lines 26-28*. Kabie’s “tunnels” comprise multiple links; this is very clearly shown in Fig. 1B where the dotted lines identified by the label “MPLS tunnel” represent aggregations of

the links 16 shown in Fig. 1A. Kabie's management of bandwidth with respect to "tunnels" therefore constitutes associating bandwidth with aggregations of links. Kabie does not teach that the constituent links of a tunnel are associated with its own bandwidth, but rather the aggregation of links that constitute the tunnel is associated with a bandwidth. Kabie therefore, does not teach or suggest "a plurality of network links that each have a predetermined communication resource" as recited in claim 2, for example, and as similarly recited in claims 1, 7, and 12.

Refer now to Kabie at column 5, line 62 to column 6, line 15 for a discussion of an example of bandwidth management at the first level, in particular, the transport bandwidth management (TBM) module. In the TBM, Kabie discloses that the core links 16 in the MPLS core 12 (FIG. 1) are partitioned with a percentile value assigned to each transport pool 106. Fig. 3 illustrates three alternative transport pool 106 configurations: (i) fully shared 106A where only pool is configured at 1.0 Link Rate (L), (ii) partitioned 106B where four pools are configured, or (iii) hybrid 106C with a combination of partitioned and shared where two pools are configured. *Col. 6, lines 8-15*. As described, each transport pool constitutes a partition of the core links 16.

Kabie teaches that a QoS is mapped to a transport pool, as shown in Fig. 3. *Col. 6, lines 16-19*. Kabie clearly teaches that a QoS is mapped to a transport pool, which in turn comprises a partitioning of core links. Kabie does not teach or suggest that each core link is mapped to a QoS. Therefore Kabie does not teach or suggest "associating a predetermined data communication capacity with each of the data communicating links" as recited in claim 7, for example, and as similarly recited in claims 1, 2, and 12.

CONCLUSION

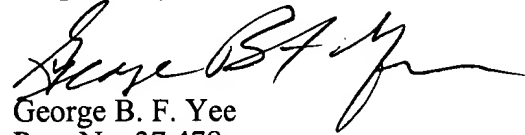
In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

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PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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